



OFFICE OF CONGRESSWOMAN LOIS FRANKEL (FL-22)

Community Project Funding (CPF): FY24 Interior

Return completed form and required documentation to: becca.flikier@mail.house.gov

Due Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Note: *The Subcommittee will only accept Community Project Funding requests in the Environmental Protection Agency—State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) account for certain clean water and drinking infrastructure projects. The Subcommittee will **not** accept project requests in any other account.*

Project Eligibility: These projects include construction of and modifications to municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants.

Grantee Eligibility: The Committee will be limiting STAG infrastructure grants only to projects that are publicly owned or owned by a non-profit entity and that are otherwise eligible for the funding from that state's Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan programs. The Committee will **not** fund projects to for-profit entities and privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for infrastructure grants, even if they are otherwise eligible for assistance under a SRF program.

State, municipal, local, territorial, or Tribal governmental entities should be considered as the primary grantees to oversee the completion of the project. For STAG water infrastructure projects, States have Intended Use Plans (IUPs) with drinking water and wastewater projects that have already been vetted by governmental officials.

Non-profits with 501(c)(3) designation will be considered on a limited basis at the discretion of the Chairman. Many water projects often partner with non-profit entities to complete projects. Therefore, the Chairman will consider, on a limited basis, projects that are directed to non-profits with an inherently governmental function.

Matching requirements: There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant and the Committee will **not** waive matching requirements:

For example, a \$1 million project could receive a maximum of \$800,000 from the Federal government, with the remaining \$200,000 the responsibility of the grantee.

In almost all cases, other Federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share. However, assistance provided by a SRF does count towards the project's matching requirement.

It is important that Member offices discuss with their State and local officials the ability for localities to meet matching requirements prior to requesting a project. This does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but that local officials must have a plan to meet such requirements in order for such a project to be viable.

One-year funding: Each project request must be for FY 2024 funds only and cannot include a request for multiyear funding.

Project Amounts: Members should use the range of project amounts funded in FY 2023 as a general guide when making requests. In FY 2023, most EPA STAG infrastructure projects funded in the House bill ranged from \$45,000 - \$5,000,000. Note that the Committee may consider higher project amounts for fiscal year 2024, and any caps will be determined by the Chairman after reviewing the full universe of requests.

The following lists some of the project types that are **NOT generally eligible for STAG Grants**

Clean Water / Wastewater

1. Land, except for projects described in the subsequent table under eligibility #11.
2. Operations and maintenance costs.
3. Non-municipal point source control.
4. Acid rain drainage correction.
5. Ambient water quality monitoring.
6. Flood Control Projects, unless the project is otherwise managing, reducing, treating, or recapturing stormwater.
7. Privately owned sewer pipes.

Drinking Water

1. Dams or rehabilitation of dams.
2. Operations and maintenance costs.
3. Water rights, except if the water rights are owned by a system that is being purchased through consolidation as part of a capacity development strategy or if the water rights purchase is covered by EPA's DWSRF Class Deviation for Water Rights 2019.
4. Reservoirs, except for finished water reservoirs and those reservoirs that are part of the treatment process and are located on the property where the treatment facility is located.
5. Laboratory fees for monitoring.
6. Projects needed mainly for fire protection.
7. Projects for systems that lack adequate technical, managerial, and financial capability, unless assistance will ensure compliance.
8. Projects for systems in significant noncompliance, unless funding will ensure compliance.
9. Projects primarily intended to serve future growth.

The following list provides some examples of the types of projects that **ARE generally eligible for STAG Grants**

Clean Water / Wastewater

1. Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities: Upgraded (increase in treatment level) or expanded (increase in treatment capacity) facilities, including biological facilities, mechanical, a lagoon system, a land treatment system, or individual on-site systems.
2. Collector Sewers: Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites to larger interceptor sewers.
3. Interceptor Sewers: Large sewers that convey wastewater from collector sewers directly to a wastewater treatment facility.
4. Sewer Pipes: Rehabilitation is eligible only if pipes are publicly owned.
5. Outfall Sewer: A sewer that conveys treated wastewater from a wastewater treatment facility to the receiving waters (i.e., a river, stream, lake, ocean, etc.).
6. Storm Water Management: Measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water (i.e., storm sewers, green infrastructure, etc.).
7. Combined sewer overflow (CSO) control and sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) control: Combined sewers are sewers that convey both wastewater and storm water and may overflow during periods of heavy rain. The costs to correct CSO and SSO overflow problems are eligible.
8. Infiltration/Inflow Correction: Construction activities that prevent surface water or groundwater from entering the sewer system.

9. **Water Security:** These projects include installation or upgrade of physical security infrastructure such as lighting, fencing, monitoring and access control. Also, cybersecurity measures, installation of safer treatment technologies, and more secure storage of on-site treatment.
10. **Septic Tanks:** Remediation, rehabilitation, removal and replacement of failing tanks are eligible, as well as installation of new tanks where none had previously existed.
11. **Land:** The leasing and fee-simple purchase of land, including surface and subsurface easements, needed to locate eligible municipal or tribal projects, and land integral to the treatment process (e.g., land for effluent application or recharge basins), and a place to store equipment and material during POTW construction. Municipal purchase of land and/or conservation easements for source water protection are also eligible.
12. **Water Reuse:** Projects involving the municipal reuse or recycling of wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water. This includes but is not limited to the purchase and installation of treatment equipment sufficient to meet reuse standards, distribution systems to support effluent reuse, recharge transmission lines, injection wells, and equipment to reuse effluent (e.g., gray water, condensate, and wastewater effluent reuse systems).
13. **Capital Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Projects:** E.g., river or streambank restoration, agricultural best management practices (i.e., buffer strips, manure containment structures), wetlands restoration, etc.

Drinking Water

1. Facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e., PFAS).
2. Rehabilitate or develop water sources (excluding reservoirs, dams, dam rehabilitation and water rights) to replace contaminated sources.
3. Install or upgrade treatment facilities.
4. Install or upgrade storage facilities, including finished water reservoirs, to prevent microbiological contaminants from entering the water system.
5. Install or replace transmission and distribution pipes to prevent contamination caused by leaks or breaks in the pipe or improve water pressure to safe levels.
6. Projects to consolidate water supplies – for example, when individual homes or other public water supplies have a water supply that is contaminated, or the system is unable to maintain compliance for financial or managerial reasons – are eligible for DWSRF assistance.
7. Land is eligible only if it is integral to a project that is needed to meet or maintain compliance and further public health protection.
8. Project planning, design, and other related costs.

To Be Filled Out by Applicant:

General Information

Entity Requesting Funds (aka non-federal project sponsor):

Primary Point of Contact (name, email, phone number, organization address):

Project Priority (if non-federal sponsor is submitting more than 1 project):

Short description of the project to appear in the report:

Total Project Cost (including breakdown of federal/non-federal shares):

Requested Amount:

Sources of funding for the full share of the cost of the project if amount received is less than amount requested:

Whether the project has received Federal funding previously, and if so, the source and amount:

Complete Description of Project (limit 1000 characters, including spaces):

Application Questions

1. Is this a Clean Water SRF project or a Drinking Water SRF project?
 2. Is the project on your State's most recently finalized Clean Water/Drinking Water SRF Intended Use Plan (IUP)?
 3. Has the project received Federal funds previously? If so, please describe.
 4. Does the project have (or expects to have within 12 months) its 20% cost share requirement?
 5. Given the Federal nexus requirement, does the project help meet or maintain Clean Water Act/Safe Drinking Water Act standards? If so, please describe.
-